

REMARKS

On page 3 of the Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-6 are allowable over the prior art. Claims 7-9 and 11 have been deleted. Claims 12 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form.

I. The Examiner's Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is not well-taken. First, it is not clear whether the rejection is a written description rejection or an enablement rejection. More importantly, claims 12 and 13 merely recite certain embodiments already recited in claim 7 and in original claim 10, neither of which was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicants therefore ask that the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

II. The Examiner's Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Tomiyama et al.* (USP 6,190,803 B1). The claims in question have been canceled.

III. Conclusion

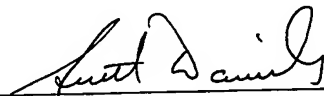
For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, it is believed that this application is not in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number below to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

By: _____



Scott M. Daniels
Reg. No.: 32,562
Attorney for Applicants
Tel: (202) 822-1100
Fax: (202) 822-1111

Attachment: Change of Correspondence Address
SMD/rer